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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of preferentially forming single walled carbon nanotubes having a particular diameter, comprising:

providing a catalyst comprising:

Co and Mo disposed on a support material wherein the majority of the Mo occurs as dispersed Mo oxide clusters and the majority of the Co occurs as CoMoO_4 with the Co therein primarily in an octahedral configuration, and wherein the CoMoO_4 occurs substantially disposed upon the dispersed Mo oxide clusters; and

exposing the catalyst in a reactor to a carbon-containing gas at a temperature between about 700°C and about 800°C and maintaining a CO_2 concentration in the reactor below a threshold CO_2 concentration above which the conversion of ionic Co to metallic Co is inhibited, wherein the majority of the single walled carbon nanotubes thus formed have a diameter between about .7 nm to about .9 nm.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of providing a catalyst, the support material is silica.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas; the reactor has a pressure therein between about 1 atm and 7 atm.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the threshold CO₂ concentration in the reactor is 1%.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the carbon-containing gas is CO.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 comprising the additional step of reducing the catalyst by exposing the catalyst to a heated hydrogen gas.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A method of preferentially forming single walled carbon nanotubes having a particular diameter, comprising:

providing a catalyst comprising:

Co and Mo disposed on a support material wherein the majority of the Mo occurs as dispersed Mo oxide clusters and the majority of the Co occurs as CoMoO_4 with the Co therein primarily in an octahedral configuration, and wherein the CoMoO_4 occurs substantially disposed upon the dispersed Mo oxide clusters; and

exposing the catalyst in a reactor to a carbon-containing gas at a temperature between about 800°C and about 900°C and maintaining a CO_2 concentration in the reactor below a threshold CO_2 concentration above which the conversion of ionic Co to metallic Co is inhibited, wherein the majority of the single walled carbon nanotubes thus formed have a diameter between about .9 nm to about 1.2 nm.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein in the step of providing a catalyst, the support material is silica.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the reactor has a pressure therein between about 1 atm and 7 atm.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the threshold CO₂ concentration in the reactor is 1%.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the carbon containing gas is CO.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 comprising the additional step of reducing the catalyst by exposing the catalyst to a heated hydrogen gas.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) A method of preferentially forming single walled carbon nanotubes having a particular diameter, comprising:

providing a catalyst comprising:

Co and Mo disposed on a support material wherein the majority of the Mo occurs as dispersed Mo oxide clusters and the majority of the Co occurs as CoMoO₄ with the Co therein primarily in an octahedral configuration, and wherein the CoMoO₄ occurs substantially disposed upon the dispersed Mo oxide clusters; and

exposing the catalyst in a reactor to a carbon-containing gas at a temperature between about 900°C and about 1,000°C and maintaining a CO₂ concentration in the reactor below a threshold CO₂ concentration above which the conversion of ionic Co to metallic Co is inhibited, wherein the majority of the single walled carbon nanotubes thus formed have a diameter between about 1.3 nm to about 1.7 nm.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in the step of providing a catalyst, the support material is silica.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the reactor has a pressure therein between about 1 atm and 7 atm.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the threshold CO₂ concentration in the reactor is 1%.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in the step of exposing the catalyst to a carbon-containing gas, the carbon-containing gas is CO.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 comprising the additional step of reducing the catalyst by exposing the catalyst to a heated hydrogen gas.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of providing the catalyst, the Mo oxide clusters comprise Mo oxide clusters having a domain size between that of MoO₃ and heptamolybdate.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein in the step of providing the catalyst, the catalyst has a molar ratio of Co:Mo of less than 3:4.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein in the step of providing the catalyst, the Mo oxide clusters comprise Mo oxide clusters having a domain size between that of MoO₃ and heptamolybdate.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8 wherein in the step of providing the catalyst, the catalyst has a molar ratio of Co:Mo of less than 3:4.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in the step of providing the catalyst, the Mo oxide clusters comprise Mo oxide clusters having a domain size between that of MoO_3 and heptamolybdate.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in the step of providing the catalyst, the catalyst has a molar ratio of Co:Mo of less than 3:4.